MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

MEETING DATE:

February 4, 2008

CALL TO PODIUM:

Lauren Pruss

RESPONSIBLE STAFF:

Lauren Pruss, Planning Director

AGENDA ITEM:

(please check one)

	Presentation		
	Proclamation/Certificate		
	Appointment		
	Public Hearing		
	Historic District		
	Consent Item		
	Ordinance		
	Resolution		
	Policy Discussion		
	Work Session Discussion Item		
X	Other: Close the Record		

PUBLIC HEARING HISTORY:

(Please complete this section if agenda item is a public hearing)

Introduced	
Advertised	10/10/2007
	10/17/2007
Hearing Date	12/17/2007
Record Held Open	2/22/2008
Policy Discussion	3/3/2008

TITLE: MP-2-07

Staff Recommendation to Close the Record on Community Facilities Element, an Amendment to the 2003 Master Plan

SUPPORTING BACKGROUND:

At the December 17, 2007 regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, a motion to hold the record open indefinitely for the Community Facilities Element was adopted. This motion was in response to the County's announcement about their plans to purchase the GE Tech Park shortly before the joint public hearing on the draft element.

Since this time, the Mayor and City Council and the Planning Commission have been briefed on the County's plans for the site. In response, the Planning Commission voted to close their record on the element on February 12, 2008. Accordingly, staff is recommending that the Mayor and City Council also consider a motion to close the record for the Community Facilities Element on Friday, February 22, 2008. This would allow for policy discussion at the Monday, March 3, 2008 regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council.

Attached:

Memorandum from Greg Ossont to the Mayor and City Council

DESIRED OUTCOME:

Staff recommends that the Mayor & City Council vote to close their record on MP-2-07 as of 5 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2008, with anticipated final action during Policy Discussion on March 3, 2008.

MEMORANDUM TO:

Mayor and City Council

VIA:

Jim Arnoult, Acting City Manager ADA

FROM:

Greg Ossont, Director, Planning and Code Administration

DATE:

January 29, 2008

SUBJECT:

Community Facilities Element

At the joint public hearing for the Community Facilities Element of the Master Plan, the Mayor and City Council voted to hold the record open indefinitely. Staff originally recommended that the Mayor and City Council vote to hold the record open until January 31, 2008 (45 days). Due to the announcement of Montgomery County's potential plan for the GE Tech Park only days before the public hearing, it was suggested that the respective records remain open until the City obtain a better understanding of the County's plans.

On January 7, 2008, the Mayor and City Council were briefed by representatives of the County Executive's Office. The presentation was informative, but it was noted that the County's plans are very preliminary and that no immediate plans have been set.

As you may be aware, there are a number of master plan elements that have not been completed, including the transportation, municipal growth, and water resources elements. Many of these elements are interrelated and should be completed and adopted before proceeding with the others.

Accordingly, staff is recommending that the Mayor and City Council consider making a motion at the February 4, 2008 regular meeting to close the record at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2008. The Planning Commission considered a similar motion, and on January 7, 2008, voted to close their record on Friday, February 15, 2008. This will allow for policy discussion and possibly final action on the Community Facilities Element to take place at the March 3, 2008 regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact me directly at 301-258-6330 or gosont@gaithersburgmd.gov.

Distribution:

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